

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
APPLICATION NO. 09/437,246  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q56708

Sub  
G8  
a valve device contained in said ink supply port elastically abutting against said packing member, said valve device selectively opening and closing said ink channel in conjunction with the ink supply needle, said valve device being urged by the ink supply needle of the printing apparatus to open said ink channel (substantially at a same time) when the ink supply needle is sealed by said packing member;

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cont.  
wherein a distance from a part of said valve device which first contacts to the ink supply needle when the needle inserts into said ink supply port to a part of said packing member which engages with the ink supply needle is longer than a distance between a tip end of the ink supply needle and a part of the ink supply needle which first contacts to the packing member when the ink cartridge is coupled to the printing apparatus.

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